

# Subjects and Predicates

Every sentence has a subject and a predicate. The words that tell whom or what the sentence is about are the **complete subject**. The most important word in the complete subject is the **simple subject**. It is usually a noun or a pronoun. Some simple subjects have more than one word, such as *United States*.

A gentle lullaby relaxes everyone. → The simple subject is *lullaby*.

The words that tell what the subject is or does are the **complete predicate**. The most important word in the complete predicate is the **simple predicate**, or the verb. Some simple predicates have more than one word, such as *is walking*.

My aunt plays lullabies on the piano. → The simple predicate is *plays*.

A **fragment** is a group of words that lacks either a subject or a predicate.

The power of music. → This fragment lacks a predicate.

A **run-on** is two or more complete sentences run together.

Our whole family loves music we attend many concerts.

**Directions** Draw a line between the complete subject and the complete predicate in each sentence. Underline the simple subject once. Underline the simple predicate twice.

1. Many babies / respond well to music.
2. Little babies / can learn a lot.
3. I / practice piano every afternoon.
4. My baby sister / becomes very still.
5. She / listens intently.
6. All people / can enjoy good music.
7. Beautiful music / will calm angry feelings.

**Directions** Write *F* after fragments. Write *R* after run-ons. Write *S* after complete sentences.

8. Our dog can sing she howls along with the piano.     R
9. Animals must find our music odd.     S
10. Most of our many pets.     F
11. They like it they put up with it.     R
12. The whole family will attend a concert tonight.     S